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Reading Matters!

From the desks of—Early Literacy Coaches

*Do you know the difference between
expository and narrative?*

"Reading is a
basic tool in
the living of a
good life"
~Joseph
Addison

Narrative: A narrative tells you a story about an event. It includes elements like: theme, plot, conflict(s), resolution, characters, or setting.

Expository: Expository texts gives you facts about an event or tells you how to do something. It includes elements of definition, sequence, categorization, comparison-contrast, enumeration, process, problem-solution, description, or cause-effect.

Narrative Comprehension Questions:

Before Reading:

- What does the title tell me about this story?
- What do the pictures tell me?
- What do I already know?

During:

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- Why?
- How?

After:

- What do I think will happen next?
- Who were the characters?
- What was the setting? When? Where?

Expository Comprehension Questions:

Before Reading:

- What does the title tell me?
- What do I already know about topic?
- What do the pictures tell me?
- What do I want to learn about?

During:

- Does this make sense?
- What have I learned so far?
- What questions do I still have?

After:

- What new words did I learn?
- What was this mainly about?
- What did I learn?
- What else do I want to know about...?

Building Comprehension

4 Types of Question-Answer Relationships

Question-Answer Relationships teach students to analyze, comprehend, and respond to a variety of different types and levels of questions. They also help students identify where and how answers come from by teaching them to look back in the text or reflect on what they already know.

"There is no substitute for books in the life of a child."
~Mary Ellen Chase

"Right There"

"Right There" questions require the reader to go back in the text and find the correct information needed. These questions are often literal questions because the correct answer can usually be found somewhere in the passage. "Right There" questions include words like 'According to the passage...', 'How many...', 'Who is...', 'Where is...', or 'What is...'

"On My Own"

"On My Own" questions can be answered using the reader's background knowledge of a topic or subject. They ask the reader to reflect on their own personal experiences. "On My Own" questions include words like 'In your opinion...', 'Based on your experience...', 'Think about someone/something you know...', or 'How do you feel about...'

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."
~ W. Fusselman

"Think and Search"

"Think and Search" questions require the reader to think about how ideas or information in the text relate to each other. The reader must reread the passage to find the information and then think about how the information fits together. These questions include words like 'The main idea...', 'What caused...', or 'Compare/Contrast...'

"Author and You"

"Author and You" questions require the reader to use ideas and information that are not directly in the text. These questions require you to think about what you've read and formulate your own ideas and opinions. "Author and You" questions include the words 'The author implies...', 'The passage suggests...', or 'The speaker's attitude...'

